

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15

PRS-01 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 DRC-01

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R 072258Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9288

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG

SUBJ: GENEVA GROUP WORKING PARTY ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS

REF: GENEVA 4570 4284

SUMMARY: AS RESULT DISCUSSIONS BY MISOFF WITH SLAUGHTER  
OF UN SECT AND WHALLEY OF UKUN, USUN HAS SOME DOUBTS ABOUT  
DESIRABILITY OF PROCEEDING ALONG PROPOSED LINES OF GENEVA  
GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE ADDRESSED TO SAS ON MANAGEMENT INFORMA-  
TION. ACCORDING SLAUGHTER AND WHALLEY, WITH WHOM WE ARE  
INCLINED TO AGREE, QUESTIONNAIRE FROM LIMITED GROUP OF  
MEMBER STATES ADDRESSED TO SAS WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AND  
CONTROVERSIAL. THIS IS RESPONSIBILITY OF IOB OR UN HEAD-  
QUARTERS. FROM PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED  
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QUESTIONNAIRE, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE TIME-CONSUMING EXERCISE

FOR SAS. IN DISCUSSING ROLE OF IOB, SLAUGHTER SAID THAT SOME IN SAS AND UN WERE CONCERNED THAT IT WAS HEADED IN WRONG DIRECTION TOWARDS FUNCTIONAL AGENCY STATUS; IT HAD HOWEVER IMPORTANT ROLES TO PLAY SUCH AS DEVELOPING COMPATIBILITY IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN QUIET AND MODEST WAY.

1. MISOFF SPOKE SEPT. 6 WITH SLUGHTER, (US)(DIRECTOR EDP MANAGEMENT), ABOUT PROPOSED QUESTIONNAIRE BEING WORKED UP BY DRUCKS OF INTER-ORGANIZATION BOARD (IOB) AND GENEVA GROUP WORKING PARTY AS DESCRIBED IN GENEVA'S MOST INFORMATIVE REFTELS. OFFICER AT UK MISSION (WHALLEY) HAD EARLIER RAISED SUBJECT OF QUESTIONNAIRE WITH MISOFF. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN BOTH CASES CITED, WE WONDER WHETHER US SHOULD LEND ITS SUPPORT TO THIS EXERCISE. SLAUGHTER AND WHALLEY BELIEVE UN AND SAS COULD APPROPRIATELY REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH INQUIRY PUT TOGETHER BY GROUPING OF ONLY SOME MEMBER STATES. QUESTIONNAIRE OF THIS SORT SHOULD PROBABLY ORIGINATE FROM IOB OR FROM UN HDQTS AND NOT GENEVA GROUP AND THEY QUESTION WHY GENEVA GROUP SHOULD DO WORK OF IOB. LDCS ARE ALREADY SUSPICIOUS OF ACTIVITIES OF "RICH MAN'S CLUB" AND IT WOULD BE UNHELPFUL TO INTRODUCE SUCH SUSPICIONS INTO AREA OF INFORMATON COORDINATION WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN SELECTED BY ECOSOC FOR ATTENTION LARGELY BECAUSE, UNLIKE TERRORISM ETC., IT WAS NOT CONTROVERSIAL.

2. AS FOR CONTENTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE, WE HAVE IMPRESSION ITS MAIN PURPOSE IS TO BRING TO ATTENTION OF AGENCIES SCOPE AND TYPE OF INFORMATION THEY DO NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF PROVIDING. WHALLEY ASKS WHAT GENEVA GROUP PROPOSES TO DO WITH ANSWERS IT MIGHT RECEIVE TO QUESTIONNAIRE. IN SUM, WE CONSIDER THIS EXERCISE TO BE JUST THAT-AN EXERCISE, BOTH TIME CONSUMING AND FROM THE UN AND SAS POINT OF VIEW, NOT AS PRODUCTIVE AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE CASE WITH ANOTHER APPROACH.

3. SLAUGHTER COMMENTED THAT ECOSOC DECISION ON IN-DEPTH STUDY (TEXT IN GENEVA 4284) COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED "VOTE OF CONFIDENCE" IN IOB. HE SAID THAT SOME WERE "DISMAYED" AT LACK OF DIRECTION OF IOB. THERE WAS CONCERN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT DRUCKS WANTED TO TRANSFORM IT INTO ANOTHER FUNCTIONAL AGENCY OPERATING CENTRAL INFORMATON SYSTEMS AND WITH RESPONSIBILITIES AS MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS TO UN SYSTEM. BUT UN AND SAS WILL NOT STAND FOR THIS. MUCH QUIETER APPROACH IS NEEDED. IOB HAS SIGNIFICANT ROLE TO PLAY IN DEVELOPING INTERAGENCY COMPATIBILITY IN AREAS SUCH AS TERMINOLOGY, FUNDING, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, ETC. THIS WOULD NOT REQUIRE BIG BUDGET AND STAFF BUT RATHER PATIENCE AND

HARD WORK.

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## Message Attributes

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